

Suggests Councilman:

Use Bond Surplus \$500,000 For Pool, New Civic Center

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Every Sunday and Thursday Home Delivered by Carrier 30 Cents Per Month (Average 9 Issues Per Month)

39th Year—No. 57

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1953

PHONE FAirfax 8-4000

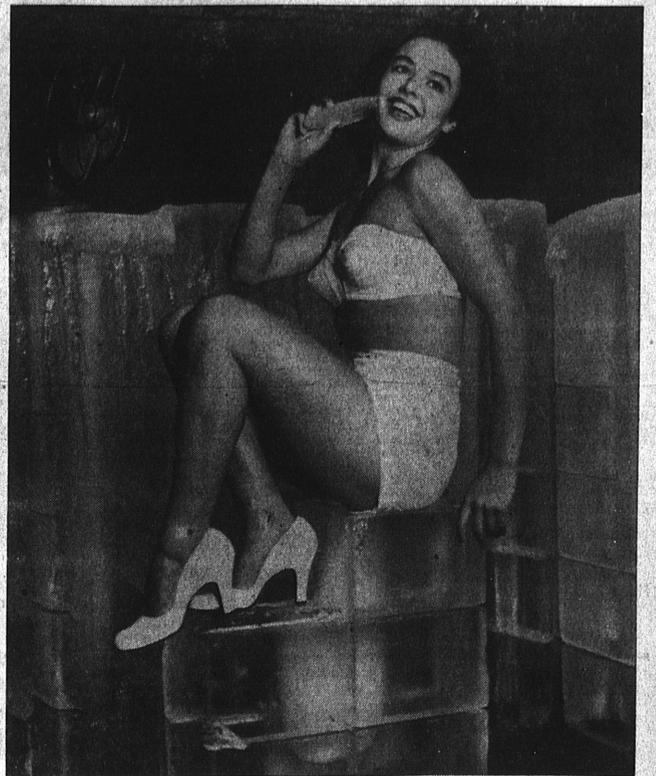
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32 PAGES

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING
—the ONLY Newspaper Published AND PRINTED in Torrance. Established 1914.

TORRANCE HERALD

—and Torrance Herald Shoppers Reach 100,000 Buyers



(ICE) WEATHER... Pretty black-haired Ella Mae McLeod, 16-year-old Torrance High School junior, doesn't feel she has the Miss Torrance contest on ice just because she was the first to enter. She's only trying to beat the heat and it looks as though she has found a way. The pert brunette is the daughter of Mrs. Ethel McLeod of 3203 Crickwood Ave. Real cool, isn't she?

'Could Build New Fire Station' Claims Benstead

That the City of Torrance use the half-million dollars it had left over from the recent water improvement bond issue to erect a civic center, another fire station, and a swimming pool was suggested Tuesday night at a meeting of the City Council by Councilman Victor A. Benstead.

Benstead suggests the new civic improvement, to be located on the future civic center site on Torrance Blvd. and Madrona Ave.

Waggling his shirt at the collar line to cool off a bit, Councilman Benstead said: "In weather like this there is no doubt that the city could use a swimming pool."

On consent of the council the matter was referred to its next agenda meeting for discussion.

The \$500,000 surplus referred to by Benstead were monies not used by the city in its improvement of the water system. The voters okayed a \$2,000,000 bond issue to build a 10,000,000-gallon reservoir, install certain pipelines and pumping stations, and other improvements in the city's rapidly deteriorating water supply system. The surplus was the difference between engineering estimates of the job and actual cost of the improvements which are now nearing completion.

Sunday Hottest Day Since 1950

Only a few times during the past several years has the thermometer gone higher than it did here Sunday, when it reached 96 degrees. The dates during the last five years:

Aug. 27, 1949	96
Sept. 7, 1949	97
Nov. 4, 1949	98
Oct. 13, 1950	104
July 12, 1953	96

Reach Agreement On Partnership Termination

Litigation which had been pending the past several months relative to the former partnership existing between Grover C. Whyte, the late publisher of the Torrance Herald, and Edwin B. Brown, former business manager of the Herald, was concluded July 9 when attorneys for both parties agreed that the partnership was dissolved on June 21 of last year.

Legal papers are now being prepared by James M. Hall, attorney for Mrs. Pluma C. Whyte, current publisher of the Herald, transferring complete ownership of the twice weekly newspaper to her. Brown also surrendered 25 per cent interest in the West-side Graphic Publishing Co., publishers of a weekly newspaper in Long Beach.

'Miss Torrance' Sign-Ups Started

The annual "Miss Torrance" contest got rolling this week with at least three applicants getting their names on the dotted line at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, official sign-up station for the contest.

First to sign up was Ella Mae McLeod, 16, of 3203 Crickwood St., Pacific Hills. She is a Junior at Torrance High.

Signing up Tuesday was 18-year-old Jan Stevens, a Torrance High senior who lives at 425 Via Pasqual, Hollywood Riviera.

Yesterday 18-year-old JoAnn Howard, of 2335 W. 247th St., picked up an application at the Chamber office. JoAnn was graduated from Torrance High last spring.

The queen finals will be held in the Civic Auditorium on the evening of Aug. 20, it was announced yesterday by W. E. Bowen, president of the sponsoring Torrance Area Youth Bands.

Ball Planned

A coronation ball will be held the following Saturday, Band Director James Van Dyck said. Girls in the contest will be judged by a panel of three competent judges, Van Dyck said. They will be judged first in formal attire, then in bathing suits.

All candidates in the 1953 contest will be sponsored, the sponsor paying an entry fee of \$5 which will go to defray expenses of the contest and to purchase prizes in addition to those donated by Torrance merchants. Any business, industry, service club, or other organization may sponsor a candidate in the contest.

The contestants must be between the ages of 15½ and 30, unmarried, and residents of Torrance, officials have ruled. The contest is closed to former "Miss Torrance" winners, but other girls who have been in the contest may enter again.

Application blanks have been provided at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, 1345 El Prado, Van Dyck said. Information about the contest may be obtained by calling the Chamber at FAirfax 8-2314 or the Youth Band office at FAirfax 8-8273.

Old-Timer Retires From Life Of Toil

A hard-working old-timer went into retirement recently at the age of 61—without a pension. This old-timer has retired to Griffith Park to spend his declining days being stared at by sightseers who will, no doubt, marvel at the feats of superhuman strength and prowess performed by the old-timer during his working lifetime.

Prior to retirement, the old-timer worked at the Torrance shops of Pacific Electric Railway, but he didn't do much there but shove railway cars around. His real glory days were from 1906 to 1925, when he had 16 of the Pacific Electric big wheels directly under him—ready to do his bidding.

The old-timer's eyes glow with secret pride when recalling those fabulous days—from that tragic day in 1906 when the old-timer performed valiant duty at the San Francisco earthquake and fire, until 1925, when the old-timer hauled all the dirt from the tunnel being excavated for the PE subway terminal in downtown Los Angeles.

If you're thinking that the old-timer must be super-human to have performed those feats, you haven't snapped your trolley, you're on the right track. The old-timer is "Electra," a 61-year-old PE locomotive which is going on display at Travel Town, the Los Angeles City Recreation and Park Department's transportation display at Griffith Park.

Its trolley may be down for ever, and it may have a few

(Continued on Page 2)



JACK-KNIFED... Crewmen of a Santa Fe freight train await wrecker after 25-car section rammed into a standing 44 loaded-car section Sunday afternoon.

Homes Developer Demands Ouster Of Committeemen

The ouster of three members of a special Planning Commission has been demanded by representatives of a developer of a proposed 337 home tract in Hollywood Riviera.

The three committee members, Tony di Mayle, chairman, A. D. Hill, and Luther Mumford contend that the streets in the proposed subdivision should follow the contours of the original planning of the layout of the hilly Hollywood Riviera section. George Wright, through his attorney Donald Armstrong, contends that the results of an engineering survey of the property indicate that the streets should run perpendicular to the contour.

The Hollywood Riviera Home-owners as an organization and more than 25 residents of the area have dispatched letters to the commission stating that they feel that if the streets do not conform to the contours of the picturesque hillside community they will detract from the beauty of the area.

The property in question is owned by Louis B. Mayer, famous Hollywood movie producer, and is located easterly of Palms Verde Parkway, southerly and westerly of Via Monte D'Oro and north of Palms Verde Estates.

"We believe that the inference is fully warranted by its (the special three-man committee) past actions and that the committee is biased and prejudiced and will use every means in its command to prevent this matter from being thoroughly explored and heard," was the substance of a paragraph in a letter addressed to the Planning Commission and signed by Attorney Armstrong, and Attorneys Nell S. McCarthy and Franklin Peck, representing landowner Mayer.

The attorneys demand the removal of the three committee members and that the case be reheard on an engineering basis and not on its aesthetic values. The attorneys have threatened to take whatever legal means are necessary to force the commission to hear the case, on its engineering merits.

\$10,000 Sought By Chamber For New Campaigns

Only one change in the proposed \$1,165,133 city budget for the ensuing year was suggested at the budget hearing conducted by the Torrance city fathers Tuesday night.

The Chamber of Commerce represented by Dale Isenbergs, executive secretary, asked the council to increase its allotment to the Chamber of \$5000 to \$10,000 to help finance a "Shop in Torrance" campaign. The extra \$5000 would be used also to help promote a campaign to bring more industry to Torrance, according to Isenbergs.

The chamber spokesman told the council that last year the Chamber had fulfilled all the goals it had set for itself and that it "was resting on its record of accomplishment" in asking for the increase in funds.

A 14-page spread in Life magazine including several color plates is scheduled to appear before the end of the year as a result of promotional efforts (Continued on Page 2)

Train Signal Miscue Wrecks Five Boxcars

A misinterpretation of signals caused a Santa Fe freight train wreck on the railroad's main line near Crenshaw Blvd. Sunday afternoon which demolished one boxcar, damaged another and derailed three.

Jack-knifed across the tracks in a mass of torn and mangled steel was a loaded car containing auto parts and ladies' nylon hose. Although two brakemen were standing near the crash scene no one was injured as the huge Diesel 2600 rammed a 25-car section into a standing section of 44 cars.

Traffic along the line which feeds the harbor and local industrial plants, was delayed for 12 hours as crews labored to clear the tracks of the mangled cars.

The wreck, located on the Alcoa siding about 1000 yards west of Crenshaw Blvd., near the Pittsburgh Paint and Plate Glass Co., drew hundreds of spectators who traipsed across the wild oat fields to watch the salvage crews at work. Apparently the wreck occurred due to a misinterpretation of signals from Brakeman A. F. (Continued on Page 2)

State to Make 174th Street Super Highway

Construction of a new super highway through North Torrance on 174th St. should begin immediately, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas said yesterday following announcement that contracts for the highway had been awarded to J. E. Haddock Ltd. for \$72,540.

The new contracts call for construction of a divided four-lane highway between Ingle- (Continued on Page 2)

Every Dog Has Its Day And Every 3rd Home Has Its Dog

The residents of the City of Torrance are dog lovers. There is a dog in every third home, recent records of Cy Weber, city license collector, indicate.

Actually there probably is an even greater ratio of dogs per resident since the above figure is based solely on the dog licenses issued and does not take into consideration the unlicensed canines.

Weber's records indicate that during the fiscal year ending June 30, the city issued 3780 dog licenses which is approximately one-third the number of homes in Torrance.

With the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, license fees for the year 1953-54 become due and payable according to Weber. If a license is not obtained by September 30, a 50 per cent penalty is added to the fee, he states.

Fees are \$2 for a male or spayed female and \$3 for an unspayed female dog. Owners of spayed females should present a certificate from a veterinarian when applying for a license.

Non-residents of the city, especially those residing in the Shoestring Strip and in County territory are reminded that licenses for dogs are issued at the Torrance City Hall only to those living in the City of Torrance. Residents of the Shoestring Strip must apply in San Pedro for licenses.



INTO RETIREMENT... Off the active list at the Pacific Electric shops here is this ancient locomotive which was taken to Traveltown in Griffith Park yesterday. Workmen are shown here loading the engine on a large truck at the PE shops yesterday before starting the long haul through Los Angeles to the park.

(Herald Photo)